IWDP Scheme

3171. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Banjar bhumi main ugi Ghotale ki fasal" appearing in daily 'Jansatta', dated July 14, 15 and 16, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry regarding the corruption committed on large scale under IWDP Scheme in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Under the Integrated Wastelands Development Project Scheme, the projects are sanctioned by the Department of Wastelands Development, Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment in favour of District Rural Development Agencies/Project Implementing Agencies on project to project basis. The projects are also evaluated to assess their performance. No case of such large scale corruption under IWDP projects has come to the notice of the Department. However, as a result of this evaluation, in some cases, the DRDAs/PIAs have been asked to take corrective measures.

Misusing of Untouchability Law

3172. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRI S.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the laws related to untouchability are being misused and under the law reports are being registered against many innocent persons belonging to high castes and backward classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to scrap the said law;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 are serving the purpose for which Government of India enacted these legislations.

Foreign Investment

3173. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects implemented with foreign investment in food processing sector during 1996-97 alongwith the major areas of investment, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the number of these projects which are export oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) As per available information, 10 projects envisaging foreign investment of Rs. 174.21 crores have been implemented during the year 1996-97 in the various sectors of food processing. State-wise details of number of projects implemented with foreign investment is at Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) 6 projects, out of the projects indicated above are export-oriented.

Statement I

Sector-wise details of projects with Foreign Investment

(Rs. crores)

Sector	No. of Projects	Foreign Investment
Milk & Milk Product	2	157.50
Fermentation	1	9.18
Fruits & Vegetable Products	5	5.51
Meat & Meat Products	2	2.02
	10	174.21